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The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 35 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, January 18, 2024 1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

EPD officers arrest one on felony attempting to elude and drug charges

Elba Police made an arrest Sunday, Jan. 14, after the suspect reportedly tried to elude officers. According to the Coffee County Jail report, Robert Bowden, age 53, of Elba was booked into the jail at 3:24 a.m. that morning on a felony attempting to elude (no injury) charge, which



Bowden

held a \$30,000 bond. He also was charged with possession of a controlled substance [\$10,000 bond] and felony possession of drug paraphernalia [\$6,000 bond], according to reports. Bowden was released on bond at 7:45 p.m. Sunday night.

Jack, Ala. man arrested by Coffee County Deputies on drug charges

Deputies with the Coffee County Sheriff's Office arrested a Jack, Ala. man last Friday, Jan. 12, on illegal drug charges. According to the Coffee County Jail report, William Jinright, age 66, of Jack was booked into the county jail at 5:26 p.m. last Friday evening. He was charged with pos-



Jinright

session of a controlled substance [\$5,000 bond], possession of marijuana - second degree [\$3,000 bond], and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia [\$1,500 bond]. Jinright was released on bond at 8:30 p.m. Monday night, Jan. 15th.

Elba man accused of TOP - first via Alabama AG warrant

According to information from the Coffee County Sheriff's Office, Philip Brian Box, age 54, of Elba, Ala. turned himself in to Coffee County officials last Thursday, Jan. 11, on an alleged theft of property - first degree charge, which is a Class B felony in Alabama. Reportedly, an arrest warrant was obtained by the



Box

Alabama Attorney General's Office on the theft of property charge. Coffee County officials said they had no further information on the matter because the warrant came from the Alabama AG's office. Box was released on a \$5,000 bond shortly after he turned himself in to county officials last Wednesday afternoon.

Road work set to begin Jan. 22nd on portions of Coffee County Road 514

According to the Coffee County Highway Department, portions of Coffee County Road 514 will be closed to thru traffic between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. beginning Monday, Jan. 22, for drainage improvements.

This project should be completed in approximately two weeks after work begins. Detour routes and updates of the exact location of the closed portions of Cty. Rd. 514 will be posted on the county's website as the project progresses.



Work is well underway on this Alabama Department of Transportation resurfacing project in Elba. This is along Hwy. 203 between Reese Avenue (Hwy. 189) and U.S. Highway 84. The project work began last week. There was no work on Tuesday of this week due to weather, but work crews were expected to return as soon as conditions improved. Wiregrass Construction Company is completing the work included in this project.

ALDOT resurfacing project underway in Elba

The Alabama Department of Transportation [ALDOT] began a resurfacing project in Elba last week on Alabama Highway 189 [or more specifically Hwy 203 between Reese Avenue and U.S. Highway 84]. The project will consist of should widening, planning, resurfacing, and traffic stripe from Reese Avenue to Hwy. 84. There have been and will continue to be lane closures and a reduced speed limit throughout the project. Motorists are advised to plan accordingly for delays and

be mindful of equipment and people working in the work zone. Of course, inclement weather will affect work [as it did earlier this week]. ALDOT awarded the project to Wiregrass Construction Company Inc. of Dothan, Ala. This company had the lowest bid that met project requirements at a cost of \$589,453.82. According to ALDOT officials, the project is expected to be completed in Spring 2024.

Governor Ivey makes stop on statewide broadband tour

Governor Kay Ivey on Thursday, Jan. 11, completed the fourth stop on her broadband tour at Troy University. She discussed the importance of high-speed internet in allowing Alabama students to rise to the modernization of 21st-century education, while highlighting the progress being made in broadband projects in the Wiregrass region, as well as across the state.

"The intersection of education and technology marks a significant step forward in our state's digital evolution. Our dedication to integrating high-speed internet across the state reflects our broader commitment to ensuring that our students' education keeps pace with technological advancements," said Governor Ivey. "Together, through our hard work achieving digital advancement, we will craft a brighter, more connected future for all of Alabama."

ments," said Governor Ivey. "Together, through our hard work achieving digital advancement, we will craft a brighter, more connected future for all of Alabama."

The speakers addressed the nearly \$21 million in grant and matching funds committed for broadband projects which will give more than 6,600 currently unserved addresses the ability to be connected in Coffee, Covington, Crenshaw, Geneva, Houston, Montgomery and Pike counties. Additionally, the overall success of the Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund (ABAF) was discussed. ABAF, which is funded by the Alabama Legislature,

supports targeted projects in communities in need of high-speed internet access. These funds, awarded by Governor Ivey and managed by ADECA, give internet service providers the ability to execute projects that connect individual households, businesses, community anchor institutions such as libraries and schools, and others to broadband infrastructure. Since 2018, Alabama has invested approximately \$82 million in state dollars through grant awards supporting more than 100 projects through the Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund. Once all Alabama Broadband Accessibility Fund projects awarded to date have been completed, access to broadband service will be available to more than 72,000 Alabama households, businesses and community institutions that currently have no option to subscribe. "As legislators, it's

imperative for us to make important investments where they count to create the greatest possible impact for Alabamians," said Sen. Chesteen. "Broadband infrastructure is right up at the top of the list when it comes to priorities that will create a stronger future for our state. I am proud of what we have done to this point to deliver high-speed internet to Alabamians, and we'll continue pushing for internet expansion until all Alabamians are able to get connected." "Our continued progress in expanding high-speed internet access would not be possible without a unified team working hard every day to accomplish our state's broadband goals," said Director Boswell. "This team includes Governor Ivey, the Alabama Legislature, internet service providers, and others too numerous to name working together to make sure Alabama residents and communities have the tools needed to thrive." Alabamians interested in learning more about what the state is doing to expand high-speed internet access are encouraged to visit the Be Linked Alabama website, a hub of internet expansion information and news. Available at broadband.alabama.gov, the site includes the Alabama Broadband Map, county profiles and dashboards and statewide broadband news. Be Linked Alabama represents the state's united effort to expand access to affordable, reliable high-speed internet. As Alabama works toward achieving the goal of high-speed internet access for all, the statewide initiative is coordinated by ADECA and brings together partners from across the state, including Governor Ivey, the Alabama Legislature, internet service providers, research institutions, utility companies, community leaders and the public.



DOING GOOD IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD...The Elba Masonic Lodge #170 had a good year in 2023, and the local Masons are looking forward to a great 2024. The Elba Lodge is one of the most active lodges in Alabama, and members said they could not do it without the support of the community. Last week, the Elba Masonic Lodge members happily gave a little back to the community by donating a \$300 check to the Elba Senior Citizens Center. The funds were donated to the senior citizens center in thanks for its support of the annual Car Show fundraiser the Masonic Lodge holds in downtown Elba. The check was presented to Elba Senior Citizens Center director Summer Manning. Those pictured above include (from left) S/W Mike Amison, Worshipful Master Wendell Black, Manning, and Eddie Kelley.

Area Happenings

The Elba City Council will meet Monday, Jan. 22, at 5:30 p.m. at Elba City Hall. Council meeting are open to the public.

The Elba Lions Club will meet Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 6 p.m., at the Elba Senior Citizens Center in downtown Elba. All members are asked to attend this meeting. Topic of discussion will be the annual Pancake Breakfast, which is scheduled for March.

The Miss Elbala Pageant will be Saturday, Feb. 3, beginning at 5 p.m. at the Elba High School auditorium. It is open to all girls attending Elba City Schools.

EDITORIAL

"I am standing up for Alabamians and protecting our jobs"

Governor Kay Ivey says unions want to target one of Alabama's crown jewel industries

Editorial by Alabama
Governor Kay Ivey

September 30, 1993, marked a watershed moment in Alabama history. That is the day Mercedes-Benz went against the grain and chose our state to be the home of their first U.S. manufacturing facility. It was a decision that changed the future of our state like no one could have imagined.

Fast forward more than

thirty years to January 2024, and Alabama is a top five automotive manufacturing state with five world-class Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) — Mercedes-Benz, Honda, Hyundai, Toyota and Mazda. These manufacturers are key drivers of our economy, but who drives their success? The answer is nearly 50,000 hardworking Alabamians in the automotive manufacturing sector.

The men and women who

work in Alabama OEM facilities and about 150 supporting supplier employers are highly skilled and highly paid. Helping create these types of opportunities is a major reason I sought public office in the first place. Opportunity is why I focus on education, workforce development and economic development. Every person who wants a good job in Alabama should be given every advantage the state can provide to land that job, turn it into a career and support their family with it.

Let's take a step back to look at Alabama's success in automotive manufacturing.

Mercedes-Benz came to Tuscaloosa in the 1990s and brought a host of its suppliers. More followed: Honda began producing vehicles in Lincoln in 2001; Hyundai production in Montgomery began in 2005; Toyota started manufacturing engines in Huntsville in 2003, then in 2018, Toyota announced a joint venture partnership with Mazda to form Mazda Toyota Manufacturing in

Limestone County.

Today, all of that investment equates to a 1.3 million annual vehicle production capacity; more than \$9 billion in annual exports; production of 15 different cars, SUVs and trucks, including three cutting-edge, all-electric vehicles; and it ranks Alabama the number 3 state for vehicle exports and the number five state for total auto production.

Alabama has become a national leader in automotive manufacturing, and all this was achieved without a unionized workforce. In other words, our success has been home grown — done the Alabama way.

Unfortunately, the Alabama model for economic success is under attack. A national labor union, the United Automotive Workers (UAW), is ramping up efforts to target non-union automakers throughout the United States, including ours here in Alabama. Make no mistake about it: These are out-of-state special interest groups, and their special interests do not include Alabama or the men and women earning a career in Alabama's automotive industry.

As governor, my special interest is the well-being of our great state and each of the five million Alabamians who live here, who have an opportunity to succeed here

and can be proud to raise a family here. I will always stand strong for our hardworking men and women, as well as our world-class employers. When Alabamians are successful, our state is successful.

Alabama has a proud industrial past. Alabama is a leader in innovation and opportunity. It is a state where employers want to do business because they know they can succeed. And Alabama is a state that has proven it can be a worldwide leader in automotive manufacturing.

Alabama embraced a watershed moment in 1993, and we may soon face another watershed decision when the UAW asks nearly 50,000 Alabamians: Do you want continued opportunity and success the Alabama way? Or do you want out-of-state special interests telling Alabama how to do business?

For me, the choice is clear. I stand by our proven track record of success. That is why I will always proudly support the great Alabama employers and the best employees in the world. That is why I will continue to make education, workforce development and economic development my top priorities. Alabamians work harder than anyone, we make the best automobiles in the world, and we must not let UAW tell us differently.

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

While Mr. Ferrin is warmly snuggled at his daughter's house during his recovery time, we wanted to pass on some words of wisdom he would surely be giving out during this cold weather time we have been experiencing this week. Be sure to put on some extra layers of clothing and bundle up if you have to be outside. These cold temperatures and even colder winds are not what we are used to in these parts. Also, remember to keep a check on our elderly folks. It may be difficult for them to get out and about right now. Make sure they have all the things needed to get through this time. If you can, run an errand for them to the store, etc. to help keep them from having to get out. Let's all look after one another and hopefully things will warm back up quickly!

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax
6 months - \$13
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

Elba Police Report

This report reflects activity for the Elba Police Department from Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024, through Monday, Jan. 15, 2024, as reported to and dispatched from the Coffee County 911 Dispatch Center —

Tuesday, Jan. 9 — Suspicious person reported at 914 Flournoy Dr (9:18 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1231 Ann St (3:51 p.m.); Harassment reported at 243 Old Samson Rd (4:36 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 7815 Hwy 87 (7:28 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 431 Davis St E (9:57 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning.

Wednesday, Jan. 10 — Suspicious vehicle reported at 595 Collier St (1:03 a.m.); Suspicious person reported on the Troy Hwy (1:46 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 1119 Reese Ave (8:10 a.m.); Reckless driver reported on E Davis St (4:00 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 1217 Farris Ave (9:13 a.m.).

Thursday, Jan. 11 — Trespassing reported at 609 Pinecove Dr (3:46 a.m.); Animal complaint reported on County Rd 263 (6:13 a.m.); Civil disturbance

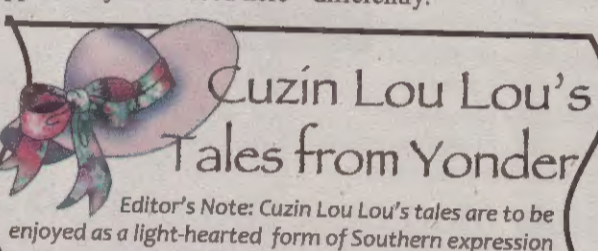
reported at 709 Roosevelt Dr (7:14 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at the W end of Kennedy Dr and Martin Luther King Dr (7:29 p.m.). Five traffic stops resulted in one arrest, three written warnings, and one verbal warning.

Friday, Jan. 12 — Suspicious person reported at 632 N Claxton Ave (3:48 a.m.); Animal complaint reported on Reynolds Ave (4:51 a.m.); Animal complaint reported on Taylor Mill Rd (10:34 a.m.); Fight reported at 381 Tiger Dr (3:34 p.m.); Suspicious person reported on Martin Luther King Dr — w/arrest (4:43 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Smith Ave (5:13 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 200 Buford St (6:46 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported on County Rd 494, Kinston (7:40 p.m.); Reckless driver reported in area of Hwy 189 and Hwy 141 (7:54 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Reese Ave (8:54 p.m.). Three traffic stops resulted in one verbal warning, one written warning, and one citation.

Saturday, Jan. 13 — Suspicious circumstances reported at 375 Hwy 203 (1:34 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 331 Putnam St (1:38 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 1625 Parker St (1:42 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 911 Farris Ave (5:11 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 861 Cedar Lane Dr (6:34 p.m.); Noise complaint reported on Beaver Dam St (11:02 p.m.). Thirteen traffic stops resulted in three citations, six written warnings, three verbal warnings, and one no action taken.

Sunday, Jan. 14 — Vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed reported on Hwy 125 (2:10 a.m.). Seven traffic stops resulted in four written warnings, one citation, and two verbal warnings.

Monday, Jan. 15 — Suspicious person reported at 588 County Rd 360 (1:31 a.m.); Harassment reported at 389 Tucker Ave (11:40 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 638 Claxton Ave N (12:36 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 2050 Taylor Mill Rd (12:53 p.m.); Harassment reported at 389 Tucker Ave (5:26 p.m.); Verbal altercation reported at 603 Kendrick St (10:14 p.m.).



Cuzin Lou Lou's Tales from Yonder

Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

The north's weather has done escaped and made its way down to the beautiful land of Yonder this week, and Cuzin Lou Lou is not okay with it!

It has never been a secret that Lou Lou is a fan of the warm weather, not cold weather, but she has always tried to stay quiet and accommodate those who prefer the cooler days and nights. After all, everyone should have their "time" — that is until the unseasonably cold days and nights escape too far south and make it miserable for all!

The temperatures reached that point earlier this week!

Tuesday morning, Lou Lou made it to the office without getting too many shivers, but the same could not be said when she had to run an errand a couple of hours later. As Lou Lou prepared to exit the office, she felt like she would be 'okay' with just her hoodie seeing as that it would be a quick trip.

Well...she was wrong! The moment she opened the front door and made a step out, the cold blistering winds hit her. She promptly returned herself inside the building to put on her jacket. Then, as soon as she got in the car, she grabbed a sagan to cover her head and ears as well!

As she griped about the

coldness all the way to her destination, she decided it might be best to warn Sister since she had probably not stepped outside her office since getting to work that morning either.

When Sister answered Lou Lou's telephone call, Lou Lou began her very enthusiastic whine, "We are not made for this mess! The north needs to come get its weather!!"

Sister, of course, immediately began to laugh, but that did not stop Lou Lou's whining...

She explained what had just happened as she exited her office and informed Sister that she might want to be prepared when she left for lunch later in the day.

"I have my rain jacket with me, but I might need to grab a heavier coat when I go to lunch," was Sister's rationale to the conversation.

"Yes! And, when you put that rain jacket on to head outside for lunch you better just go ahead and put that hood on too," Lou Lou exclaimed. "If you don't you will be singing the same song I am singing! There is a reason the good Lord put us in the south. We cannot handle this cold mess!! It needs to go away!!!"

If nothing else, Lou Lou provided Sister with her comic relief for the day.

Here's to hoping everyone in Yonder made it through the arctic blast without freezing too much, and let's hope warmer days will return sooner rather than later. The "I like the cooler weather folks" have had enough for this year!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

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D.A. announces conviction of man in Pike County for firing into an occupied building

On Thursday, Jan. 11, a Pike County jury found Justin Perry Blair guilty of the crime of shooting into an occupied building at the conclusion of a trial that lasted into the third day, according to information released by 12th Judicial Circuit District Attorney James Tarbox.

Testimony and evidence presented during the trial, which was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Jon Folmar, showed that on October 16, 2022, Blair and a co-defendant were involved in a minor verbal altercation at a residence in the 400 block of South Brundidge Street in Troy. After returning to their vehicle with the co-defendant, Blair fired a dozen rounds towards the residence.

Tarbox said evidence showed that multiple occupied residences were struck by projectiles during the

incidence.

"I appreciate the work of Senior ADA Folmar in prosecuting this case. It is important that as a District Attorney's Office we take all cases seriously, but especially shooting cases. The safety of all citizens of the 12th Circuit is and will remain our priority when prosecuting crime," Tarbox said. "We were fortunate in this incident that no one was struck with gunfire. The actions of this defendant could have seriously wounded or killed an innocent person. Our office is thankful for the jurors and their service in rendering this verdict."

Blair is scheduled to be sentenced on March 13th.

The District Attorney's Office appreciates the work of the Troy Police Department and the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences in investigating this matter.

Norah M. Martin of Jack, Ala. makes President's List and graduates from Jax State

Norah M Martin of Jack, Ala., recently was named to the President's List at Jacksonville State University [Jax State] in Jacksonville, Ala., for outstanding academic performance over the Fall 2023 semester.

To be named to the President's List, students must earn a perfect 4.0 GPA for the semester while completing at least 12 hours of GPA course credit.

On Friday, Dec. 15, Martin graduated from Jax State with a degree in computer science. More than 500 students received undergraduate and graduate degrees as part of the university's fall commencement ceremony.

Annual Pike Piddlers Storytelling Festival set for Jan. 26th and 27th

The Brundidge Historical Society invites all to the 2024 Pike Piddlers Storytelling Festival set for Friday, Jan. 26, and Saturday, Jan. 27, in Pike County.

There will be one show on Friday evening, Jan. 26, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at the We Piddle Around Theatre, Brundidge, Ala. This show will include supper and stories. Tickets for Friday night only are \$30.

There will be three shows on Saturday, Jan. 27, at the Trojan Center Theatre on the Troy University campus in Troy, Ala. Showtimes are 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets for only the 10 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. shows are \$10 each while tickets for the 2 p.m. show only are \$15 each.

Visit Coffee County's website for upcoming election information

Coffee County Probate Judge Jodee R. Thompson invites voters to visit the election website: www.coffeecountyvotes.com

While there, one can:

- *Register to vote
- *Check your registration status
- *View a sample ballot
- *Find your polling location
- *View the offices up for elections
- *View a current list of elected officials
- *Apply to become a poll worker
- *Apply for an absentee ballot, and much more!

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BILLY D. DRIGGERS

Mr. Billy D. Driggers, age 85, of Elba, Ala., died Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024, at Medical Center Enterprise in Enterprise, Ala.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024, at the Elba Church of Christ with Min. Greg Hanchey and Rev. Harry Driggers officiating. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directed the services. Bill was a follower of Jesus. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Sharon Frederick, his son, Billy M. Driggers, his parents, Johnnie and Exa Wambles Driggers, his brothers, Herman Driggers, Howard "Sam" Driggers, Lloyd Driggers, his sisters, Ovie Flourmoy, Elva Marshall, Marie Tucker, and his grandsons, Jonathan Richardson and Billy M. Driggers II.

Survivors include his wife: Joann Holley Driggers, Elba; daughters: Denise Bryan and Sondra Driggers, both of Elba, Genevieve (Chris) Daniel, Richmond, Va., Shelia (Derrell) Thrower, Smiths Station, Ala., and Cheryle (Steve) Ellenburg, Enterprise; sons: Greg (Lisa) Hanchey, Elba, and Cory (Alyssa) Driggers, Dothan, Ala.; and brother, Harry Driggers, Brantley, Ala.; along with a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

MICHAEL THOMAS SMITH

Mr. Michael Thomas Smith, age 53, a resident of Millbrook, Ala., died unexpectedly Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024, at his home.

Memorial services will be announced for a later date. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba is assisting the

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The Role of Hobbies in Grieving

During National Hobby Month, it's an opportune time to discuss a gentle yet powerful approach to healing: embracing new hobbies and interests while grieving.

Grief is a deeply personal journey, marked by a myriad of emotions, from sadness and anger to confusion and loneliness. It's a path with no right or wrong way to traverse; everyone's experience is unique. One of the most common misconceptions about grief is that it requires constant, visible mourning or a complete disconnection from joy and engagement. However, the truth is, finding moments of relief, joy, or absorption in activities is not just okay; it's often a critical part of the healing process. Today we will cover the role that hobbies play in grieving.

Distraction from Pain: In the initial raw stages of grief, hobbies can serve as a valuable distraction, offering temporary reprieve from the pain. Engaging in an activity you enjoy or learning something new can provide moments of relief and a sense of normalcy amidst the turmoil.

Expression and Processing: Creative hobbies particularly offer an outlet for expression and emotional processing. Whether it's painting, writing, music, or crafts, creating something can help articulate feelings that might be hard to express in words, aiding in the emotional journey through grief.

Identity and Self-Discovery: After a loss, you might feel like a part of you is missing or that you've lost a sense of self. Engaging in hobbies can be a way to rediscover your interests, talents, and passions, which can be an empowering aspect of redefining your identity post-loss.

Connection and Community: Hobbies often connect you with others, whether through clubs, classes, or online communities. This connection can be particularly healing, reducing feelings of isolation and providing support from those who share similar interests.

As we observe National Hobby Month, remember that embracing new hobbies and interests isn't about ignoring your grief or moving on from your loved one. It's about allowing yourself to heal, to find new facets of your identity, and to experience moments of joy even amidst sorrow. Grief is a complex, non-linear journey, and engaging in hobbies can be a valuable tool in navigating this path.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesth@hayesfuneralhome.net

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225

Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com

Smith family with service arrangements.

Survivors include his parents: John Robert and Linda Smith, Elba; brother: John Darren Smith and sister-in-law, Kelley Smith, and nephews: Joseph Darren Smith, and Jackson Davis Smith, all of Hahira, Ga.

JOSEPH FRANCIS MARIO MORETTI

Mr. Joseph Francis Mario Moretti, age 70, of Elba, Ala., died Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024, at his home in Elba.

Memorial services were held Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Mr. Jeff Keisacker officiating.

Mr. Moretti was preceded in death by his father, Mario Moretti, his mother, Evelyn Moretti, and his son, David Keisacker.

Survivors include his wife: Nancy Moretti, Elba; daughters: Teresa (Patrick) Charette, Crystal River, Fla., Jennifer (Gary) Wilkinson, Jacksonville, Fla., Catherine Broadway, Elba, Melanie (Gerald) Martinez, Albuquerque, N.M.; sons: Jeff (Renda) Keisacker, Milton, Fla., Joey Moretti, Albuquerque; and sister: Josephine (Johnny) Albert, Gilbertsville, Pa.; along with 21 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

cer. During his service with the Navy, he was privileged to have traveled to the South Pole with Admiral Byrd. After retirement from the Navy, he went on to work as a field engineer for DeLaval for many years.

Funeral services were held Friday, Jan. 5, 2024, at Mothe Funeral Home of New Orleans, La.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents, Robert H Moore and Allie Mae Wilkes Moore; his siblings, Cleatrice Moore, Ivan Moore, Jewel Mallory, Onie Mae Dawson, Clarence Moore, Arlene Fonti; his wife, Margaret Moore; and his granddaughter, Casie Elisabeth Moore.

Survivors include his two sons: Robert W. Moore (Diane) and Timothy C. Moore (Cindy); his brother: Fred Moore; four grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and one great great-grandchild.

ROBERT CURTIS MOORE

Mr. Robert Curtis Moore, age 96, died Jan. 2, 2024.

Robert was born in Elba, Alabama and was a 21-year veteran of the United States Navy serving as Chief Petty Officer.

vices.

Mr. Dyess was preceded in death by his parents, Jesse Albert Dyess and Mabel Scarbrough Dyess; along with his sisters, Sara Sharpless and Deborah Jayne Dyess, and his brother, Joe Tom Dyess (Jacksonville, Fla.).

Survivors include his wife of 72 years: Mary Agnes Dyess; sons: Albert H Dyess Jr. (wife Robin Perry Dyess), and Joseph Rugg Dyess (wife Laura Dyess); grandchildren: Heather Perry, Jessica Goeglein (husband Timothy Goeglein), and Jack Elliott Dyess; and two great-grandchildren: Michaela and Truley.

A. HAROLD DYESS

Mr. A. Harold Dyess, age 91, died Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024 at Serenity South, Troy, Ala.

Both Harold Dyess and his wife were natives of Elba. Married in 1951, the two started a family here, served in the Air Force and graduated from Troy State. Ultimately, they moved to Atlanta, where Mr. Dyess worked in the insurance industry throughout his career. Following that career, Mr. and Mrs. Dyess returned home where he farmed cattle until a few years ago.

A graveside service will be held Friday, Jan. 19, 2024, beginning at 2 p.m., at Evergreen Cemetery in Elba, Alabama, with Rev. Donnie Marler officiating. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba will direct the service.

Survivors include his wife: Nancy Moretti, Elba; daughters: Teresa (Patrick) Charette, Crystal River, Fla., Jennifer (Gary) Wilkinson, Jacksonville, Fla., Catherine Broadway, Elba, Melanie (Gerald) Martinez, Albuquerque, N.M.; sons: Jeff (Renda) Keisacker, Milton, Fla., Joey Moretti, Albuquerque; and sister: Josephine (Johnny) Albert, Gilbertsville, Pa.; along with 21 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

PHYLLIS HARRISON WILLIAMS

Ms. Phyllis Harrison Williams, age 64, of Elba, Ala., passed away Monday, Jan. 15, 2024, in an Enterprise hospital. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Hayes Funeral Home & Cremations upon completion.

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Pastor's Corner

by Rev. Ken Wilson, Pastor
Westside Baptist Church, Elba

"Big" and "Little"

My two best friends in growing up had the same name. They lived next door to each other across the street from my house. From my earliest memories of playing in the neighborhood they were there. I don't ever remember not knowing them.

John Pegues lived on the corner lot across the street from our corner lot. He was two years younger than me but every bit as big as I was. He was affectionately known as "little John". Jon Suttle lived next door to John Pegues. Although, he was seven months younger than me he was twice my size. Obviously he became known as "Big Jon". They were both big Auburn fans but that was never really a problem since Auburn only beat Alabama once in our entire childhood.

Because we did so much together, having to say "Big Jon" this and "Little John" that, began to get rather tedious so I shortened it to simply "Big" and "Little" and the rest of the neighborhood followed suit. Most every afternoon after school and every Saturday were spent with one or both of them. We sold lemonade on the corner, went on adventures in "little John's" tree house, won Super Bowls in "big Jon's" front yard and World Series in my yard. They were both like brothers to me and we fought like it. We would beat each other up all the time but if someone from another neighborhood ever said anything about any of us the other two were quick to defend the third.

Growing up together forms a bond that can last a lifetime. We walked to school together; later rode to school together and even took our dates to the same places occasionally. We didn't always agree on things or take the same paths in life but the bond remained. I always knew I could count on "Big" and "Little" when the chips were down. There was an unspoken unity that came to exist between the three of us, not really from what we had done together but because of what we had lost together.

It started in the spring of 1973. I remember my Dad was called to Big John's house in the middle of the night because his Dad had suffered a heart attack. It wasn't the first one he had experienced but this one was his last. Mr. Suttle died the next morning. Little John and I went over to Big Jon's house because, well, we just knew we needed to. We were 8 and 9 year old kids without a clue as to what to say but we knew that our friend needed us. I don't remember what we said or did but I know that Big Jon was glad that we were there for a while.

Then in August of 1974 my mother lost her battle with cancer. The morning after she died Big and Little were at my door not knowing what to say but knowing they needed to be there. Big and I talked a lot in the months that followed about feelings and loss and moving on. Things that 10 and 11 year old boys ought not to have to talk about but we did. We understood that we shared some scars that would never completely heal and could be opened unexpectedly with just a word or two.

Life went on and we all grew into our teenage years. Big Jon and I graduated and went to the University of Montevallo. He would later transfer to Auburn, of course, but I stayed. In our first semester I got a call one night that Little John's father had died suddenly from a brain aneurism. Of course "Big" and I were back at home for the visitation and the funeral. We didn't really have to say anything and "Little" understood that we were there because our friend needed us. Although we were no longer all together we were still held together by a bond that could not be broken.

See CORNER, Page 8

CHURCH & AREA NEWS

Ministry training class set to begin Jan. 22 at CCBA office

Ministry Training Institute of Samford University Extension Division - Coffee County Baptist Association - will begin its winter semester Monday, Jan. 22, at 6 p.m. The class will meet each Monday night through March 11, 2024.

Class ZMTI 1328 Acts of

the Apostles: Tuition is \$50 with a \$10 registration fee. Registration can be completed online.

For more information, call the Coffee County Baptist Association at (334) 894-6411/(334) 475-5089 or call (205) 720-4055 and talk to Dedra Phillips.

Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe to host grant writing course

The Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama will be hosting a free grant writing course Saturday, Jan. 27, at 10 a.m. at the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama [2950 County Rd. 377, Elba, Alabama]. Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP per email by 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 15th. Email is: machiscreeks@outlook.com

Round and About With Eria's Daughter



Scripture: Shout Joyful Praises to God all the earth! Psalm 66:1

Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Isaiah Franklin Jr., Clarice Fitch, Debra Siler, Betty Moore, Omega Knight, Robert Reynolds

January Birthdays / Anniversaries

Emmett Bright 1/8
Natalie Luckett 1/9
Darrean Burks 1/10
Helen Phillips 1/14
Martin Luther King Jr. 1/15 in memory
Kobie Belcher 1/16
Glennette Williams 1/16
Mary (Jana) Kelley 1/16
Former First Lady Michelle Obama 1/17
Christina Nelson 1/18
Tommy J. Robinson 1/19

Discipline with a Goal

My preteen son angrily stomped down the hallway after I sent him to his room for misbehavior. I heard a thump and then silence. When I went to investigate, I saw a foot-sized hole in the door to his sister's room. His face registered my own surprise: he had not realized that he was strong enough to produce a hole in the door by kicking it. I sat down on the bed next to him and told him that he would have to pay for a new door and help his dad install it. He nodded in agreement.

I said, "I'm not angry at you. I know people get mad sometimes. I just want you to learn how to control that anger and frustration because someday you probably will be a husband and a father. Someday you will be so frustrated with your wife or your children that if you have not learned how to tame your anger and deal with it in a healthy way, you may hurt them." I allowed him to experience the consequences of his out-of-control anger

when he was young and the stakes were low so that he will not falter after he grows up and the stakes are very high. I discipline him out of love.

God's discipline is also rooted in love. He desires that we live holy lives that point others to Him. Do you accept His discipline in that regard, or do you resist it? - L.M.W.

Question / Answer Section Q/A for the Week of 1/18/24

Multiple Choice

Q: What turns to blood before the day of the Lord? (sun, moon, stars)
A: Moon [Joel 2:31]

Q: John affirmed that in love there is no what? (propitiation, fear, perfection)
A: Fear [1 John 4: 18]

Q: God anointed the Psalmist's heard with what? (wine, water, oil)
A: Oil [Psalm 23:5]

Questions for the Week of 1/25/24

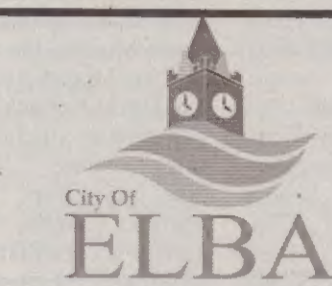
Multiple Choice

Q: Jonah told his shipmates he was fleeing from whom? (a king, the Lord, his wife)

Q: After Jonah was swallowed by the great fish, he began to what? (pray, vomit, sleep)

Today is a good day! Be grateful.
Eria's Daughter, Sue

**Worship at
the Church
of Your
Choice
This and
Every
Sunday!**



NOTICE

City Privilege Licenses
are due

January 1, 2024
and delinquent

February 1, 2024

Penalties will be assessed if license is not purchased prior to February 1.

For further information or to purchase a license, please contact Sandra Berry at (334) 897-2333.

City of Elba, AL
Sally Bane, City Clerk

Church Directory



IN HIM WAS
LIFE AND
THE LIFE
WAS THE
LIGHT OF
MEN

**ABUNDANT GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Rockey Pearce, Pastor
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.

**ABUNDANT LIFE
CHURCH SAMSON, Ala.**
Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor
Morn. Worship ... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

**ALBERTON BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Sam Self, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet. ... 6:30 p.m.

BETHEL AME CHURCH
Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:00 p.m.

**BETHLEHEM BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Class ... 6:30 p.m.

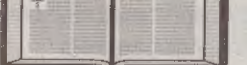
**BETHANY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Greg Cotter, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train ... 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:30 p.m.

**BLUFF SPRINGS
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**BROOKLYN BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.

**CHESTNUT GROVE
METHODIST CHURCH**
Remonia Smith, Pastor
Church Service ... 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

**CORNERSTONE BIBLE
CHURCH**
Larry Mills, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Night ... 7:00 p.m.



**COVENANT COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
Paul Jackson, Pastor
Sunday Fellowship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Night "Peak of the Week & meal ... 5:30 p.m.
Bible Study & Prayer ... 6:15 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

**DAMASCUS BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Steve Watson, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**DORCAS BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Discipleship Training 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet. ... 7:00 p.m.

**EAON BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Mark Ward, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:15 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST
Philip Box, Minister
Bible Study ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:30 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD
David Noble, Pastor
Morn. Worship ... 10:45 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 5:00 p.m.

**ELBA CHURCH OF GOD
OF PROPHECY**
H.L. Buckner, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night ... 6:00 p.m.
Thur. Night ... 7:00 p.m.

**ELBA DELIVERANCE
TABERNACLE**
Allen Richards, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 7:00 p.m.

ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Dwight Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 6:30 p.m.

**ELBA FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Ed Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 6:30 p.m.

**ELBA UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Services ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:00 p.m.

**ELBA ZION BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Lovell Martin, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.

**EVANGELIST TEMPLE
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**
Timothy Williams, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:00 p.m.

**FAIRVIEW BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet 7:30 p.m.

**FAITH CHAPEL
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Phillip Adcock, Pastor
Sunday Morning ... 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

1st ASSEMBLYS OF GOD - KINSTON
Danny Bradshaw, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 7:00 p.m.

**FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Scott Donaldson, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**FRIENDSHIP HOLINESS
CHURCH**
Edward E. Drake, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening ... 5:00 p.m.

**GODS POWER HOUSE
EVANGELISTIC CHURCH**
Overseers - Billy Berry
Sat. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Sun. Service ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 4:00 p.m.

GRACE FELLOWSHIP
John Curtis Isaacs, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 7:00 p.m.

**GREATER NEW ZION
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Marvin Luckett Jr., Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:00 p.m.

**HARRIS TEMPLE COGIC
W. K. Ellison, Pastor**
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Service ... 6:00 p.m.

**HAM UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
Rev. Steve Reneau, Pastor
Morn. Worship ... 8:45 a.m.

**HAW HILL ASSEMBLY
OF GOD**
Shirley Ellis, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet. ... 7:00 p.m.

HEBRON BAPT. CHURCH
Mark Cooper, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**HOLY TEMPLE COGIC
Glenwood, AL**
Sunday Prayer ... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service ... 11:00 a.m.

**INO ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Wesley D. Ard, Pastor**
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

INO BAPTIST CHURCH
Garry Winstead, Pastor
Sunday School ... 8:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

**JACK ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Matthew Morris, Pastor**
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:15 p.m.

**KINSTON 1st BAPT
CHURCH**
Heath Fountain, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.

LIVING WOOD CHURCH
Derrick Stinson, Pastor
Saturday Service ... 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Service ... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Youth Service 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. Service ... 6:00 p.m.

**LIBERTY CHURCH OF
CHRIST**
Greg Hanchey, Minister
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.

LOVE'S WAY CHURCH
Charles Jones, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 7:00 p.m.

**MT. CALVARY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
J. R. Parks, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
1st & 3rd Sundays

**MT. GILEAD BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Dewey Emfinger, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 5:00 p.m.

**MT. OLIVE BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Olan Strickland, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**MT. ZION BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Will Jordan, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.

**MT. VERNON ASSEMBLY
OF GOD**
Tom & Barbara Davis, Interim Pastors
Sunday School ... 9:15 a.m.
Fellowship ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Time ... 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:00 p.m.

**Cathedral of the Holy Spirit
NEW ABUNDANT LIFE DEL.**
Linda Williams, Pastor
Sunday ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Even. ... 7:30 p.m.

**NEW JERUSALEM
CHURCH OF GOD IN
CHRIST - ENTERPRISE**
W. K. Ellison, Pastor
Morning Worship ... 9:00 a.m.
Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday Evening ... 7:00 p.m.
Friday Evening ... 7:00 p.m.

**NEWBIA BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Ed Russell, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Disciple Train ... 5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

**NEW BROCKTON
METHODIST CHURCH**
Dr. Craig Bailey, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:30 p.m.

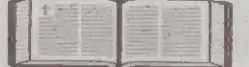
**NEW CHAPEL BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Terry Godwin, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study ... 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet. ... 6:00 p.m.

**NEW EBENEZER
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Randall Pearson, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet. ... 6:00 p.m.

**NEW GLORIOUS COGIC
James Starks Jr., Pastor**
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Bib Stud Wed ... 6:00 p.m.

**NEW HAVEN BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Allen Dieas, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet. ... 6:30 p.m.

**NEW HAVEN ASSEMBLY
OF GOD CHURCH**
Brad Sasser, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Even. Service 6:30 p.m.



**NEW HOPE BAPT
CHURCH**
Lanny Shepard, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**NEW PHILADELPHIA
CHURCH OF GOD IN
CHRIST**
Lorant Flowers, Minister
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

**OAK GROVE BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Julian Mitchell, Pastor
1st - 4th Sun. Morn.
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.

**OLD TABERNACLE UNIT-
ED METHODIST CHURCH**
Lee Jones, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.

**PERDUE ASSEMBLY OF
GOD**
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 7:00 p.m.

**PINEY GROVE ASSEM-
BLY OF GOD - SAMSON**
Terry McCrummen, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship ... 6:00 a.m.
Wed. Worship ... 7:00 a.m.

**PRAISE & GLORY
WORSHIP CENTER**
Roy L. Turner, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 6:30 p.m.

**ROCKY HEAD M.B.
CHURCH**
A. R. Williams, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:00 p.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

**ROETON BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Kerry Saxon, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet. ... 7:00 p.m.

**SHADY GROVE AME
James Boots, Pastor**
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Praise Service Mon 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:00 p.m.

**SHILOH BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Leon Fortune, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 4:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet. ... 6:30 p.m.

**TAYLOR HILL COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH**
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night Service 5:00 p.m.

**THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST**
Pastor Bishop E.H. Hill
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Noon Worship ... 12 noon
Even. Service ... 7:00 p.m.
Youth Ser. Mon. ... 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Class ... 7:00 p.m.
Fri. Missionary Ser. 7:00 p.m.
THE WAY OF HOLINESS
CHURCH, Elba
Max Reed, Minister
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

**TRINITY BAPTIST
CHURCH**
C.P. Davis, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service 6:00 p.m.

**VANDERBILT HOLINESS
CHURCH**
Donald Mills, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service 6:00 p.m.

**VICTORIA BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:45 p.m.
Wed. Worship ... 7:00 p.m.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Elba Clipper

P.O. Box 677 Elba, AL 36323

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LEGAL NOTICES:

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

THE ESTATE OF SCOTTY DWIGHT PATRICK, DECEASED.
CASE NO. 23-086.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to **AMANDA LYNN PATRICK** on the 16th day of January, 2024, by the Honorable Jodee Thompson, Probate Judge of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present same within the time allowed by law or the same will be forever barred.Done this 16th day of January, 2024.
/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Honorable Judge of Probate
Coffee County, Alabama
1/18,25&2/1-pd.

LEGAL NOTICES:

Public Notices also are posted on the websites: www.elba-clipper.com and www.alabamapublicnotices.com at no extra charge

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DIANNE M. NOWICKI, Deceased.

CASE NO. PR 2024-001

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Scott Michael Nowicki, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Dianne Marie Nowicki, deceased, on the 5th day of January, 2024 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred./s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Judge of Probate
1/11,18&25-pd.

Waterworks & Sewer Board of the Town of New Brockton, AL Water Main Replacement Project ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the Water Main Replacement Project will be received by the Waterworks & Sewer Board of the Town of New Brockton, at their office located at 706 E. McKinnon Street, New Brockton, AL 36351, until 2:00 p.m. local time on February 1, 2024 at which time the Bids received will be opened and read aloud. The Project consists of replacing approximately 8,840 feet of existing water mains with a new 6" PVC water main and necessary appurtenances. Contract No. 1-Water Main Replacement Project, Estimate=\$345,000, Contract Time=60 Days
The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: DHA Engineering, LLC, 2323 W. Main Street Ste. 227B Dothan, AL 36301, 334-585-5841, harmojc@gmail.com. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office via pick-up or mail upon a non-refundable production cost payment of \$100.

Bidding Documents also may be examined at the Waterworks & Sewer Board of the Town of New Brockton Office, 706 E. McKinnon Street, New Brockton, AL 36351.

All bidders must register as an official plan holder with the engineer no later than 48 hours prior to the bid opening.

The owner reserves the right to waive any informalities and reject any or all bids.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instruction to Bidders. Bidders shall submit proof of qualifications to perform the Work as described in the Instructions to Bidders.

Owner: Waterworks & Sewer Board of the Town of New Brockton

By: Lucas Green
Title: Chairman
Date: January 8, 2024
END OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
1/11,18&25-chg.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN RE: ESTATE OF FRED GRISWOLD, JR., DECEASED

CAUSE NO: PR-2023-204

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION TO OPEN INTESTATE ESTATE

You will please take notice

that on the 15th day of May, 2023, a certain instrument in writing, titled Petition to Open Intestate Estate and Appoint Administrator of Estate was filed by Mary Beth Henderson, Coffee County Conservator, acting in her capacity as Conservator of Loretta Griswold, the surviving spouse of Fred Griswold, Jr. and that the 16th day of February, 2024, at 9:00 o'clock A.M. was appointed the day for the hearing of the same at the Coffee County Courthouse, Enterprise Division, Alabama at which time you may appear and contest same, if you see proper.Done, this the 10th day of January, 2024./s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Hon. Jodee R. Thompson
Probate Judge
1/18,25&2/1-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

CASE NO: PC-2023-088

IN THE MATTER OF BRENDA MADDOX, Deceased.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 11th day of January, 2024, by the Honorable Jodee Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred. Witness my hand this the 11th day of January, 2024.
/s/ VAN MADDOX
Personal Representative
1/18,25&2/1-pd.

THE CITY OF ELBA COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA LOADER BACKHOE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

Sealed Bids for **LOADER BACKHOE** will be received, by **The City of Elba**, at the meeting room of **City Hall of Elba; 200 Buford Street; Elba, Alabama 36323**, until **11:00 a.m. local time on Friday, February 2, 2024**, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. Bids shall be on a lump sum basis.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS: Minimum specifications current year model or new latest year end production model 4-wheel drive Loader Backhoe with Multi-Purpose loader bucket; meeting the following specifications, in accordance with manufacturer's standard published specifications. The tractor loader shall be of a unitized integral frame design, the manufacturer's latest design currently produced model only. The unit shall have a diesel engine producing not less than 108 SAE net flywheel horsepower. Hydraulic System: 41 gallons per minute. Variable flow, axial piston pump. The transmission shall be a full power shift with torque converter, for 4 forward and 3 reverse speeds minimum. A transmission disconnects, or neutralizer pedal shall be furnished. The front-end loader shall have a full height lift capacity of no less than 6,087 lbs. and a breakout force of a minimum of 9,813 lbs. Backhoe to be equipped with a hydraulic quick coupler (tool

carrier). The bucket shall be multi-Purpose type with at least 1.20 CU. yards. The loader shall incorporate automatic self-leveling, float and return to dig, extended bolt-on cutting edge and a set of 48" pallet forks to fit the coupler. The backhoe shall have an extendable dipper stick with a loading height of at least 12' 10" retracted and 14' 10" extended. A digging depth of at least 15' 6" retracted and 19' 6" extended. The arm digging force shall be 9,850 lbs. or greater with the arm retracted. The backhoe shall be equipped with reversible stabilizer pads, rubber on one side and dirt type on the other side. The buckets shall consist of one (1) 24" digging bucket with teeth and one 48" tilting ditching bucket with hydraulic quick coupler with hydraulic thumb. The Backhoe shall have an auxiliary hydraulic circuit to operate the hydraulic tilting bucket, with manual 3 way shut off valve to swap between tilt bucket and hydraulic thumb. The unit shall have a pilot operated backhoe joystick control system that will allow operator to choose between SAE and ISO Control pattern. The unit shall include the following miscellaneous equipment: ROPS cab with two doors, heater and a/c; front and rear work lights; LED hazard lights; LED turn signals; SMV emblem; LED rotating beacon light; tool box; engine/transmission oil monitoring; engine temperature; hydraulic oil temperature; tachometer; hour meter; fuel gauge; backup alarm; rear fenders; vandalism protection with locks for hydraulic tank, engine access doors, and fuel tank, skid plates, front bumper with grill (coolers protection). All service compartments must be lockable. 19.5L x 24 or 21L x 24 - 10 ply drive tires; 12.5/80 18, or 14 x 17.5 10 ply traction type front tires. Factory Warranty: 5 year/3,000 hours full machine warranty; warranty must accompany units when delivered. Vendor to furnish two (2) sets of parts books, service manuals, technical manuals, and operator's manuals with each unit. Must have parts and service within 100 miles of delivery point. Must have three (3) sets of keys. Delivery date may be a factor in making the award.

Owner: The City of Elba
By: Tom Maddox
Title: Mayor
Date: January 9, 2024
1/18-chg.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

THE ESTATE OF EVA MILLER, DECEASED.

CASE NO. PC-2023-039-B

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 11th day of January, 2024, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.**James Miller**,
Personal Representative
Estate of Eva Miller
c/o Hamp Baxley Ramsey, Baxley & McDougale
P.O. Drawer 1486
Dothan, AL 36302
MHB@RBM.law
334-677-2850
1/18,25&2/1-pd.

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SPORTS NEWS

Views From The Pressbox By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

There is no doubt our youngest grandson Cannon will want a pickup truck when he gets older! His Dad has two trucks, his favorite toys are trucks and his Nanny said that when she went for a visit last week he even took a truck to bed with him. I have already promised our grandson Lawson he could have my truck when he turns fifteen. So, I guess maybe in a few years it will be back to the used truck lot to hunt for another set of wheels.

For what it is worth....

*** *The Elba Tigers suffered their first area loss* of the season last week in Florala, but played as well as they have played all season and there is no doubt the team is beginning to peak at just the right time. It is true Elba doesn't have a true point guard or a big man in the middle to help put points on the board. However, the players know what to expect from each other and where to go when they need a basket, and that is showing as they get into the meat of their schedule. As for the defense, the Tigers are very quick and aggressive, and never back down from a challenge. I know Elba is probably thought of as only the third best team in the area and had to go into overtime to get past the number four team, but I just have a feeling things are coming together and see some upsets

on the horizon.

*** *The Elba Lady Tigers are racing* through the early part of the area schedule without breaking a sweat and the biggest problem for their coach may be to convince the girls they aren't as good as they think, which is hard when your area wins have come by average of almost fifty points. I agree our girls are very talented and can beat anyone in the state on any given night, but also believe they can be beat if they don't play their best and play aggressive every minute of every game. The first step for the Lady Tigers is to win the area title and host the area tournament, and once they accomplish that take it step by step, and not get caught looking ahead or listening to their fans talking about going back to the state tournament.

*** *The high school basket season* is beginning to head down the home stretch and I still believe all area fans are in for some excitement in the weeks to come. On the boys' side, Brantley, New Brockton and Zion Chapel are all battling for an area title and have the talent and coaching to bring home a title, while Kinston is getting better and better and is playing too well right now to overlook. As for the girls, New Brockton looks like a team to keep an eye on and is piling up the wins, while Brantley and Kinston are in the same area and will have to play their best to advance, and Zion Chapel can just have fun and see if it can knock off someone down the line. The season may be nearing an end, but the real fun is just starting.

*** *Obviously the biggest sports story in the state* last week was the retirement of Nick Saban as the head football coach at Alabama. While Coach Saban admitted he wasn't sure he would retire until minutes before his announcement to his team, he stated in an ESPN interview that the past season was "grueling" and took a little more

out of him than usual and that in his own mind he may not have lived up to the standards he set for himself as a coach. As a nine time 'Coach of the Year,' a coach that has led his teams to seven national championships and a 206-29 record as the head man for the Crimson Tide, his standards are no doubt very high! The pinnacle of his 17-year stay at Alabama was the decade from 2011-2020, when the Tide posted a 127-12 record and claimed five national championships and seven SEC titles. Two of the greatest football coaches in the history of college football were Bear Bryant and Nick Saban, and we as Bama fans should be happy we got to be around long enough to watch both put the Crimson Tide on the map as the capital of the college football world.

*** *I have read and heard everyone's opinion* on Alabama's new coach, and while I know many of you will disagree with my opinion, since this is my column I have the right to my opinion and here it is. I think the officials at Alabama let Nick Saban have too much of an impact on who would follow him and in doing so missed out on the obvious choice - Lane Kiffin. Kiffin has gone out of his way while at Ole Miss to never say anything bad about Saban, or the Crimson Tide, but Saban has never buried the hatchet for some reason, and I betcha if Kiffin had been hired he and Miss Terry would not have been sitting on the front row at his introduction as head coach. I also believe if Kiffin had gotten the job no one would have been worrying about the new portal and who might be leaving. There it is - I think Bama blew it and ignored the wishes of the majority of its fans and players! As for new head coach Kalen De Boer, I hope he becomes the winningest coach ever at Alabama. All I hear is that he is a 'winner' and has been a 'winner everywhere he has been.' That's great, because winners win. I know his career coaching record is an unbelievable 104-12, but his years at Sioux Falls, where his teams posted a 67-3 record help the career stats quite a bit, and while I will agree he had two very good years at Washington, I just have my doubts on his road to Bama. As for Alabama Athletic Director Greg Byrne, he reminds me of a science teacher that took on the role of athletic director to add to his paycheck, and actually thinks he is a coach. I read all the great accomplishments that have occurred since he took the post at Alabama and that is impressive. So, hopefully he got this hire right and one day I will admit I was wrong and he was right. Until then, that is just the opinion of a small town sports writer that pens a weekly column.

*** *While on the subject of college football*, it looks like Auburn head coach Hugh Freeze has begun the process of putting his own fingerprint on the Tigers with last week's news that both Cadillac Williams and Zac Etheridge are leaving the program. Williams was an obvious keeper when Freeze took the job at Auburn since the former Auburn All-American was the face of the program and one of the most popular players and coaches ever on the plains, while Etheridge was also a former player that was popular with fans and players, alike. The loss of the coaches will no doubt have an impact on recruiting and ruffle the feathers of many Auburn faithful, but Freeze is the man in charge and is now bringing in his own folks to work around him. Hey, the new hires may pay dividends down the road, but for now the immediate return is just a bunch of unhappy folks.

*** *In closing...* the Elba Tigers are one of just a few football teams across the state that have yet to release their schedule for next season, but after looking at the schedule of the teams in their region and others in the area, the schedule does at least begin to come together. From what I have seen, Elba will open the season at Luverne in a non-region game and then come home in week two for a match-up against former private school power Glenwood Academy, followed by home games against region foes McKenzie and Kinston. A trip to Brantley is on the schedule in week five, and that is it for now until weeks eight and nine, where the Tigers will host Georgiana and Florala in a pair of region clashes. I know it is basketball season and that means the next two sports in high school are baseball and softball. However, as other schools released their schedules I just had to at least take a peek.

Tigers split area road contests



Elba Tiger Brady Johnson dribbles upcourt in recent high school basketball action. Elba evened its record at 8-8 last week with a road win over Houston County, but closed the week with an area loss at Florala to fall into second place in the area standings.

(Photo by BCSports Photography)

The Elba Tigers took to the court twice last week in area road games and split the two contests to move to 3-1 in area competition.

Following is a recap of last week's area games:

Elba 67 Houston County 50

The Elba Tigers pulled ahead early and never looked back to claim an important 67-50 area road win over the Houston County Lions.

Jacob Watkins and Alvin Henderson combined for 13 first quarter points as the Tigers opened up a 20-9 lead, while Brady Johnson drained a three-pointer and scored five points in the second quarter to help Elba carry a 36-23 lead in at intermission. Houston County was able to cut into the Elba lead slightly in the third quarter. However, Jamal Siler took command inside in the final quarter and the Tigers missed only one free throw down the stretch as they posted the impressive 67-50 area win.

Alvin Henderson scored 20 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Tigers were Jamal Siler 13, Jacob Watkins 11, Cameron Gray 10, Ty Sieving 7, Brady Johnson 5 and Cody Gray 1. Isaac Walker scored 18 points to lead the Lions.

Florala 54 Elba 44

The Elba Tigers saw a five-point lead vanish during a third quarter scoring drought in a hard fought 55-44 area road loss to the Florala Wildcats.

Elba came out ready to play against the area-leading Wildcats and behind the three-point shooting of Ty Sieving and Alvin Henderson jumped out to an early 8-2 lead, only to see Florala rally late in the stanza to pull ahead 11-10. Sieving nailed another three-pointer with 2:03 left in the second quarter to pull the Tigers even at 19-19, but the Wildcats scored late and at the half went in with a 24-23 advantage.

Ty Sieving hit his third three-pointer of the night early in the third quarter to put Elba on top 26-24, and behind the scoring of Cameron Gray and Emmanuel Cook inside opened up a 30-25 lead with 6:23 remaining in the quarter. The Tigers would only manage to score two points the rest of the quarter; however, and Florala took advantage of the scoring drought and went on a 15-2 run to carry a 40-32 lead into the final stanza. Elba stayed within striking distance for much of the fourth quarter and only trailed by five points with less than two minutes remaining, but the Wildcats were accurate from the free-throw line and pulled way late to hand the Tigers the 54-44 area defeat.

Alvin Henderson scored 15 points and Ty Sieving added 13 to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Tigers were Cody Gray 4, Cameron Gray 4, Emmanuel Cooks 4, Jacob Watkins 3 and Brady Johnson 1. Rayshon Coleman scored 19 points to lead Florala.

Basketball SCHEDULES

Thursday, Jan. 18

Florala at Elba
Zion Chapel at Pike Lib
Houston County at Brantley

Friday, Jan. 19

Elba at Pike Lib
Kinston at Brantley
New Brockton at Opp

Saturday, Jan. 20

Elba at Opp

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Elba at Brantley
Kinston at Florala
Zion Chapel at Goshen
Pike County at New Brockton

Thursday, Jan. 25

Wicksburg at Elba
Highland Home at Zion Chapel
Florala at Brantley
Headland at New Brockton

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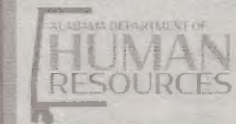
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SPORTS NEWS

High School HOOPS HIGHLIGHT

BOYS:

Zion Chapel Rebels rip Goshen 59-48

The Zion Chapel Rebels got back on track with a 59-48 win over the Goshen Eagles. Slade Grantham scored 23 points and went over the 1,000-point mark in his career, as he connected on all three three-point tries, hit 8 of 10 free throw opportunities and added three field goals. Jacob Chestnut added 19 points and Joseph Legear scored eight. Jayden McNabb scored 11 points to pace the Eagles.

Brantley Bulldogs drop Kinston 54-43

The Brantley Bulldogs kept on rolling in area play with a solid 54-43 win over Kinston. Jayden Parks scored 34 points, grabbed six rebounds, handed out five assists and had four steals to lead the Bulldogs, while Daylan Davis scored 10 points and pulled down 12 rebounds. Colby Tew scored 18 points to lead Kinston, while Michael Thompson added 13 and Zane Martin scored 10.

Zion Chapel upset by Highland 55-46

The Zion Chapel Rebels saw their area woes continue with a 55-46 loss to Highland Home. The Rebels owned a 35-31 lead heading into the fourth quarter, but were outscored 24-9 in the final stanza and slipped to 0-2 in area play. Slade Grantham scored 18 points and Mason Stuart added 10 to lead Zion Chapel, while Jakaleb Faulk scored 19 points for Highland Home.

New Brockton whips Opp 57-42

The New Brockton Gamecocks picked up a key area win with a 57-42 victory over the Opp Bobcats. Josiah Lewis scored 16 points and Kenyon Kilow added 15 to speak the Gamecocks, while Conner Powers and Damirian Thompson scored 8 points, apiece, for the Bobcats.

Brantley Bulldogs fall at Florala 57-42

The Brantley Bulldogs dropped an important 57-42 area clash to the Florala Wildcats. Jayden Parks scored 25 points, grabbed five rebounds and had four steals to lead Brantley, while Daylan Davis added 13 points and 15 rebounds.

Kinston falls to Emmanuel Ch. 46-42

The Kinston Bulldogs dropped a hotly-contested 46-42 contest to Emmanuel Christian. Donald Alums scored 12 points and grabbed 8 rebounds to lead Emmanuel Christian, while Tristan Culp added 10 points and 9 rebounds.

New Brockton dumps Pike County 53-48

The New Brockton Gamecocks claimed a key area win with an exciting 53-48 win over the Pike County Bulldogs. Yassiah Rousseau scored 12 points and Anthony Silar added 10 to lead the Gamecocks to the area win, while Kenyon Kilow and Josiah Lewis both added 9 points, and Baylon Foster scored 8. Markelis Hobdy scored 15 points for Pike County.

GIRLS:

Lady Bulldogs defeat Kinston 47-41

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs claimed an important area win with a 47-41 victory over Kinston. Alex Grimes scored 20 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to lead Brantley, while Coco Stamps added 13 points, five rebounds, five assists and five steals; and, Myia Mount added 10 points

Zion Chapel ranked 4th in 2A**Elba Lady Tigers ranked fifth in ASWA poll**

The Alabama Sports Writers Association has released its first high school basketball poll of the new year with the Elba Lady Tigers ranked fifth in Class 1A and the Zion Chapel Rebels ranked fourth in Class 1A.

The Lady Tigers, a state 'Final Four' participant last season, slipped from the number three spot in the first poll of the season after dropping two games in a holiday tournament, while the Rebels maintained their hold on the number four spot.

Following is a list of the 'Top 3' teams in each

classification for boys and girls, along with teams in the area:

(GIRLS) Class 7A — 1. Bob Jones, 2. Sparkman, 3. Vestavia Hills; Class 6A — 1. Hazel Green, 2. Hillcrest Tuscaloosa, 3. Mortimer Jordan; Class 5A — 1. Pleasant Grove, 2. Jasper, 3. Southside Gadsden; Class 4A — 1. Prattville Christian, 2. Good Hope, 3. Deshler, 9. Geneva; Class 3A — 1. Lauderdale County, 2. Plainview, 3. Clements, 9. Ashford; Class 2A — 1. Mars Hill Bible, 2. Cold Springs, 3. Decatur Heritage, 9. Abbeville; Class 1A — 1. Spring Garden, 2. Skyline, 3. Marion County, 5. Elba.

(BOYS) Class 7A — 1. Huntsville, 2. Hoover, 3. Austin; Class 6A — 1. Buckhorn, 2. Paul Bryant, 3. Helena; Class 5A — 1. Fairfield, 2. Valley, 3. Madison Academy; Class 4A — 1. Hale County, 2. Jacksonville, 3. White Plains, 8. Geneva; Class 3A — 1. Sumter Central, 2. Plainview, 3. Midfield, 4. Houston Academy, 5.

Providence Christian; Class 2A — 1. Collinsville, 2. LaFayette, 3. Red Bay, 4. Zion Chapel; Class 1A — 1. Covenant Christian, 2. Georgiana, 3. Marion County, 5. Red Level, 6. Florala, 7. Pleasant Home.

Elba JV rips Florala Wildcats

The Elba Tigers pulled ahead early and never lost command in a solid 40-31 road win over the Florala Wildcats, in junior varsity basketball action. The Tigers jumped out to a 15-5 first quarter lead to take command and battled until the final buzzer.

Javante Griggs scored 22 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Tigers were Ky'Avian Stoudemire 5, Easton McKelvy 4, Johnathan Edwards 4, Levi Martin 3 and Matthew McCart 2. Bobby Coleman led Florala with 13 points.



Elba Lady Tiger A'Lyric Whitfield (10) goes up for a shoer jumper in a recent basketball home game. Whitfield led the Lady Tigers to a pair of area road wins last week.

(Photo by BCSports Photography)

Rip Houston County and Florala**Elba Lady Tigers remain atop area standings with two wins**

The Elba Lady Tigers tightened their hold on the top spot in the area standings last week with a pair of area road wins over Houston County and Florala.

Following is a recap of both area wins:

Elba 77 Houston County 6

The Elba Lady Tigers continued their dominance over area opponents with a lopsided 77-6 road win over the Houston County Lady Lions.

A'Lyric Whitfield scored 11 points in the opening quarter to help Elba jump out to an early 21-6 lead, while Whitfield and Ana Caldwell combined for 16 points in the second quarter as the Lady Tigers carried a big 39-6 lead in at intermission. Alayvia Stinson scored eight points in the third quarter to lead eight Elba players that

helped the Lady Tigers pour in 24 points, and Ayrika Caldwell and Sydney Siler scored six points apiece in the final stanza as Elba put the finishing touches on the 77-6 romp over the Lady Lions.

A'Lyric Whitfield scored 23 points, including 21 in the first half, to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Lady Tigers were Ana Caldwell 12, Alayvia Stinson 9, Ayrika Caldwell 8, Keelie Moseley 6, Sydney Siler 6, Kendra Juarez 5, Ny'Asia McCollough 4, Brooke Tinsley 2 and Tajah Robinson 2. Zyon Smith and Naziyah Rivers both scored 3 points for Houston County.

Elba 50 Florala 26

The Elba Lady Tigers pulled ahead early and never looked back to claim an impressive 50-26 area

road win over the Florala Lady Wildcats.

The two rearing rivals battled to an early 7-7 tie, but Elba's Ny'Asia McCollough sparked a rally that enabled the Lady Tigers to open up a 20-12 lead late in the first quarter, and Tajah Robinson hit a big three-pointer late in the second quarter as the Lady Tigers took command and went in at the half with a 28-18 lead.

A'Lyric Whitfield and Ana Caldwell hit key baskets midway through the third quarter to push the Elba lead to 39-22, and when Tajah Robinson added a basket on a steal and layup early in the fourth quarter the Lady Tigers lead had ballooned to 48-22 and sealed the deal on what would be a 50-26 area road win.

Tajah Robinson scored 15 points and A'Lyric Whitfield added 12 to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Lady Tigers were Kendra Juarez 6, Ana Caldwell 6, Ny'Asia McCollough 6, Alayvia Stinson and Keelie Moseley 2. Kyndra Anthony scored 10 points to lead Florala.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

LBW's Center for Building Construction to fuel training for statewide, careers in construction

Shovels broke ground in Andalusia on Tuesday, January 11, at the Lurleen B. Wallace (LBW) Community College Center for Building Construction, a 3.5 million, 10,000-square-foot project that will facilitate the construction industry's training needs in the state's southeastern region.

Alabama Community College System (ACCS) leaders, local public officials, and industry partners broke ground on the development on the northwest side of LBW's Andalusia campus, between the Jeff Bishop Student Center and the Seth Hammett Gymnasium.

The Center for Building Construction includes one classroom and two labs equipped with state-of-the-art industry equipment needed to train a future workforce with real-life scenarios. Students will train both for the Building Construction Associate of Applied Science Degree and for noncredit skills training for a multitude of areas within the construction industry.

"As we monitor labor market data and five-to

ten-year data projections for our area in growth, retirements, and labor participation rates, this investment into our communities is all the more important," said Dr. Brock Kelley, President of LBW. "We are thankful to begin the process of building our next wave of construction professionals in a brand new facility."

The Center for Building Construction was identified as a needed project after engaging local public officials, community members, workforce partners, labor market data, and population projections to figure how to best align services to more effectively serve communities, meet business and industry workforce needs, and increase overall student success.

Local business partner, Chief Operating Officer of Wright Bros., LLC, Billy Bergfeld said the center is directly in line with workforce needs in the construction industry.

"For years we've wanted one place where our workers could train across multiple disciplines within the industry, and I think we've

finally gotten our wish through LBW's current training programs and this future center," Bergfeld said.

"We appreciate a college that listens to our needs and responds, and look forward to working with LBW in any way that we can."

The Center for Building Construction is among various infrastructure projects, at multiple campus locations, that will move forward in the next few years through legislative appropriated funds for capital improvements across Alabama's community and technical colleges.

Seay Seay & Litchfield (SS&L) has been selected as the architect on the project.

The Center for Building Construction is expected to open in fall 2024.



LCPE Welcomes New Member...Sandra Danford recently was initiated as the newest member of the Luncheon Pilot Club of Enterprise by the LCPE Membership Chair, Gina Oates. Danford was welcomed into the club and reminded that the name "Pilot" was inspired by the mighty riverboat pilots who represented leadership and guidance, that the Pilot principles are friendship and service; that the Pilot motto is "True Course Ever", and that the colors are green for life and vigor and gold for sincerity of purpose. Shown in photo (from left) are Debbie Shelton, president; Fran Walters, Sandra's sponsor; Gina Oates, and Sandra Danford. To learn more about becoming a member of this club, contact Gina Oates at ginaoates686@outlook.com.

SEACT presents dramatic reading this Friday evening in Dothan

SEACT will present a dramatic reading of Kenneth Jones' timely play, Alabama Story.

A dramatic reading is an opportunity for audiences to become intimately acquainted with a dramatic work. There are no sets or costumes, shifting the focus of the presentation to the playwright's words and the actors' performances.

Feb. 12th is deadline to register to vote in Alabama's March 5 Primary Elections

Coffee County officials remind voters that Monday, Feb. 12, at 4:30 p.m. is the deadline for registering to vote in time for the March 5, 2024 Primary Elections.

The Board of Registrars' office is located in the Coffee County Complex, E. McKinnon St., New Brockton, AL.

Any person may register to vote, provided they:

- are a citizen of the United States;
- live in Alabama (and the county of registration);
- are at least 18 years old on or before election day;
- are not barred from voting due to a disqualifying felony conviction; and
- have not been declared mentally incompetent by a court

Voters who want to update their voting information to

The reading will be Friday, January 19th - Cultural Arts Center in Dothan. Performance starts at 6:30 p.m. \$5 at the door; members free; donations welcome!

Alabama Story is a historical but fictional drama based on the real-life Emily Reed and State Senator E.O. Eddins, two foes who faced-off in 1959 over a book about rabbits - black and white rabbits.

The play weaves their story along with a parallel tale of Joshua and Lily, a Black man and a white woman, who were once childhood friends in a small town, reunited in Montgomery the same year. Alabama Story is a courtroom thriller, memory play, romance, and historical drama brimming with humor, heartbreak, and hope when character is tested in a time of great social change.

Happening at the Elba Public Library:

- Homeschool Hangout resumes Thursday, Jan. 18, at 10 a.m. This is for home-schooled children of all ages.
 - Make-It-Monday will be Monday, Jan. 22, at 5:30 p.m. This program is free to all participants.
- Call the Elba Public Library at (334) 897-6921 for more information.

CORNER (Continued from Page FOUR)

We are all three many miles apart with different careers and families and rarely see each other at all. However, I believe there is still an unspoken bond that holds the three of us together and I am confident that they would say the same.

One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. (Proverbs 18:24)

Epilogue

Little John was diagnosed with a form of brain cancer in late 2015. He fought it like a warrior but passed away in February 2017. I sat with Big Jon at the memorial service on 'Saturday February 18. Jon and his big brother Bill spoke briefly as part of the service. As I sat there next to "Big" with tears in my eyes and thought about all of the memories of "little" I realized that I have been truly blessed. To have grown up when and where I did and to have this bond of brotherhood that can't be broken. I'm thankful that even death can't break this bond because I know that because of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ I will see Little John again.

To Big Jon: I love you brother, let's keep up more often.

To little John: I'll see you when I get home.

Deadline to apply in-person for an absentee ballots for March Primary Election is Feb. 29

Please note that Thursday, Feb. 29, at 4:30 p.m., is the deadline to apply in person for absentee ballots for the March 5th Primary Election.

Beginning Jan. 10, 2024, applications for absentee voting will be available at the absentee election manager's office in New Brockton. Absentee Election Manager is Debbie Kinsaul. Mailing address is P.O. Box 427, New Brockton, AL, 36351. The physical location is 5 County Complex, New Brockton, Alabama.

Any qualified voter may submit an absentee ballot application by mail or in person to the Absentee Election Manager's office for the following reasons:

- The voter is out of the country or state on Election Day.

- The voter has any physical illness or infirmity which prevents the voter from attending the polls.
- The voter works a shift that has at least 10 hours, which coincide with the hours the polls are open at the voter's regular polling place.
- The voter is a student enrolled in school outside the county of residence.
- The voter is a member, a spouse or a dependent of a member of the United States Armed Forces or is similarly qualified to vote absentee according to the Federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.
- The voter is a caregiver for a family member who is confined to their own home.

- The voter is incarcerated in prison or jail and have not been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude.

Alabama voters voting under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) may receive additional information by contacting the Board of Registrars' office or the office of the Alabama Secretary of State for expanded options.

Completed ballots must be returned by the voter in person to the Absentee Election Manager at 5 County Complex, New Brockton, Alabama no later than one day prior to the election, or if mailed through the United States Postal Service, it must be postmarked no later than one day prior to the election.

Multiple ballots cannot be mailed in the same envelope.

Monitoring Non-Compliance Notice

Elba Water Works is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. The results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the July 2022 - September 2022 monitoring period, we did not monitor for Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC), and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water. Especially those who may have not received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This non-compliance was due to the lab not taking the required sample. We have since made sure the lab has all the samples on their list.

Should you have any questions concerning this non-compliance or monitoring requirements, please contact:

Melissa Morris at (334) 897-2333
200 Buford Street, Elba, AL 36323

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ELBA WATER WORKS HAS LEVELS OF CARBON TETRACHLORIDE ABOVE DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

Our Water System recently violated a Drinking Water Standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results we received in April of 2023 show that our system exceeds the standard or Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Carbon Tetrachloride. The standard for Carbon Tetrachloride is 0.005 MG/L. The chart below lists the location, contaminant, and levels that exceeded the maximum contaminant level.

THIS IS NOT AN IMMEDIATE RISK. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Some people who drink water containing Carbon Tetrachloride in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

LOCATION	CONTAMINANT	QUARTER	LEVEL (MG/L)
WELL 6	CARBON TETRACHLORIDE	Jan. - March 2023	0.035 MG/L

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This is the quarterly sample that was done from January - March 2023. To comply with the drinking water standards we must run this report in the paper to assure all customers were notified.

Should you have any questions concerning this violation or monitoring requirements, please contact:

Melissa Morris at (334) 897-2333.
200 Buford Street, Elba AL 36323